The progress made under NRHM as reported by states is follows:

- Over 6.77 lakhs Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) working actively in the field to connect households with health facilities.
- 4.28 lakh Village Health and Sanitation Committees constituted and untied funds made available to them for local public health action.
- 1.45 lakh Health Sub Centres made more effective through utilization of united funds, availability of drugs and addition of 44,429 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) on contract.
- 7,613 PHCs made 24X7, with provision of drugs, united grants, maintenance grants, Rogi Kaalyan Samiti (RKS) grants.
- 9,874 MBBS Doctors, 6,660 AYUSH Doctors, 13,278 paramedic staff, 3 staff Nurses in 5,520 PHCs. 2,344 Specialists taken on contract.
- Upgradation of physical infrastructure completed in 822 CHCs.
- More than 28,000 RKS established in DHs, CHCs, PHCs.
- 617 Integrated District Health Action Plans completed.
- 354 Districts have functional Mobile Medical Units.

Ranking of India by Global Hunger Index

1293. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the Global Hunger Index for 2009 India has been ranked at a poor 65th position with an alarming rating;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's poor performance in controlling undernourishment, child malnutrition and child mortality has exposed the factual position in the world; and

(d) if so, what immediate corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) India is ranked 65th on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), 2009 (as brought out by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFTRI) – an alliance of 64 governments, private foundations and international and regional organisations. The index is based on prevalence of child malnutrition, rates of child mortality and the proportion of people who are calorie deficient. The Global Hunger Index for India has declined from 32.7 to 23.9 for the period 1990 to 2009.

(c) and (d) The percentage of children under age three who are underweight has declined from 52% as per National Family Health Survey I (1992-93) to 40% as per National Family

Health Survey – III (2005-06). The rate of under five mortality has declined from 117 per thousand live births in 1990 to 72 in 2007 as per the State of World's Children, 2009.

The Government has initiated various measures to improve the health and nutritional status of vulnerable population *i.e.* infants, children pregnant and lactating mothers of the country. The important measures are given in the Statement.

Statement

The measures taken to improve the health and nutritional status of population.

1. A National Nutrition Policy has been adopted in 1993 and a National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various Departments of Government. The National Nutrition Mission has been set up.

2. Reproductive Child Health Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) includes :

   - Emphasis on appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding.
   - Janai Suraksha Yojana (JSY)
   - Maternal Health by promoting institutional deliveries improved coverage and quality of ANC skilled care to Pregnant women, Post-partum care at community level.
   - Immunization
   - Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness and malnutrition.
   - Treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) set up at public health facilities.
   - Specific Programme to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron and Folic Acid through Vitamin A supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation for Preschool Children, Pregnant and lactating women. Iron and folic acid syrup has been added in the programme for children 6 to 60 months.
   - National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP)

3. Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification.

4. Integrated Child Development Services Schemes (ICDS) including supplementary nutrition.

5. National Programme of Nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid day meal programme)

6. Improving agricultural and horticultural produce.

7. Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme, availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Targeted Public Distribution System.